
Upwood Public Houses

Between 1850 and 1950, Upwood supported three public houses. John Sinclair was publican and farmer at **the Cross Keys** in 1851; by 1869 Samuel Murfin was publican and carpenter whilst Peter Kay appeared in 1881 as licensed victualler and carpenter. In 1910 Marshall's Brewery of Huntingdon are recorded as the owners with Peter Kay as tenant. He remained landlord to 1914.

Smith and Ada Townsend were tenants between 1920 and 1926. A villager remembers *'he had a butcher's shop at the end with scales and benches. The show was all very new. The slaughterhouse was at the back; his sausages were lovely'*. The next tenants, Cecil and Gwendoline Lavender, were publicans from 1936 to 1940, possibly longer. They were succeeded in 1948 by Headley (Stan) and Edith Saunders and, in 1953, by Charles Gaunt following the closure of the Royal Oak where he had previously been landlord.

The Rose and Crown public house provided beer and other refreshments from about 1839 until 1922. In 1851 James Isley, an agricultural labourer and publican, lived there with his wife Jane, seven children and two lodgers. James Isley remained as landlord up to 1877 and in 1891 the census records Jane, now aged 73, as publican. By 1898 the tenancy had been transferred to Mrs Ada Darwood and in 1906 Harry Gaunt is noted as 'beer retailer'. *'The Rose and Crown, together with two small closes'*, was sold on 1st November 1921 to John Hidson Key, the tenants at that time being Harry Gaunt and James Isley (son of the earlier James Isley).

The same property, now called Meadowbrook, is noted in a trade directory of 1928 as the home of John Key. It seems that the Rose and Crown ceased to be a public house between 1921 and 1928. Some of the older villagers recall that there was a bowling alley in the garden. The present house retains many of the old features of the pub, including the Georgian windows and original front door with portico.

In 1851 the tenant of **the Royal Oak** public house was William Woodcock, publican and carrier, with his wife Susannah and two children. By 1869 William Key was tenant and appears in 1871 as publican and carrier. John Gaunt was the landlord in 1885 and the Gaunt family remained as tenants of the Royal Oak until about 1952 when the pub closed.



Cross Keys public house — probably the oldest public house in the village.

Gt Raveley Public Houses

Two public houses are recorded in Gt. Raveley during the period 1850 to 1950. In 1851 the census return shows John Watford at the **Three Horseshoes** with a lodger George Marden, a journeyman blacksmith. James Toft appears as the landlord in 1861, described as publican and wheelwright. By 1871 Samuel Shepperson was living there, described as publican and blacksmith and by 1885 there was yet another new tenant, Frederick Stocker.

The 1910 Land Duty Valuation shows the owner of the Three Horseshoes as Marshall Brothers of Huntingdon and describes the premises as a house, shop premises and land with a gross value of £10 15s 0d, with a rateable value of £9. The house was described as brick, stud and thatch with four rooms upstairs, two sitting rooms, kitchen, cellar, wash-house downstairs a butcher's shop lean-to attached together with a trap-house and stable built of brick and pantile and a three-bay cart hovel described as 'old, with poor roof'.

The advertisement in the *Huntingdon Post* newspaper to let the public house by Marshalls Brewery in 1912 described the premises thus:

'The Three Horseshoes Inn with Slaughter house, Smithy and Stabling at Great Raveley, with immediate possession.' The advertisement cost 6d.

By 1914, William Dodson was the publican and between 1920 and 1928, the public house changed hands to Thomas Edwards. Robert Edwards was landlord in 1931 and in 1936, Samuel Poulter has taken over the pub. Between 1940 and 1950, Ernest Milner was the publican at the Three Horseshoes.

The other public house in Gt. Raveley was known as the **Carpenter's Arms**, situate at the Woodwalton end of the village. In 1851, John Cooper and his wife ran the pub. The 1854 trade directory recorded John Cooper as a publican and shopkeeper, and in 1861 he was described as beer retailer and grocer.

William Govier took over the pub along with the shop by 1871. By 1914, Leonard Poulter was the publican and sometime between 1920 and 1928 the Carpenter's Arms ceased trading as a public house.



The Three Horseshoes public house, Gt. Raveley. This was, over the years, home to the local butcher and wheelwright.